

WILLIAM H. H. WRIGHT.

JANUARY 28, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WOOD, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 2949.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2949) granting an increase of pension to William H. H. Wright, of McPherson, Kans., having examined the claim, concur in the report of the Senate Committee on Pensions, and recommend the passage of the bill for the reasons stated in said report, which they adopt, and which is as follows:

William H. H. Wright enlisted on the 8th day of August, 1862, and was discharged on the 6th day of March, 1863. He served in Company G, Thirty-fifth Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers. He was discharged on surgeon's certificate, having contracted chronic diarrhea while in the service and in the line of duty. On the 20th day of July, 1869, he was allowed a pension at the rate of \$4 per month for said disability, and as this trouble increased very rapidly he was increased to \$8, then to \$12, and then to \$14 per month, the last rate being allowed him on the 7th day of March, 1878. This is the rate he is now drawing.

About the time that this last rate was allowed he began to be troubled considerably with piles, resulting from chronic diarrhea, which increased very rapidly. From this complex disability has resulted an inguinal hernia, caused by relaxed tissues and straining.

The soldier at times is very constipated, and then he has these severe spells of diarrhea, which carries with it blood, mucous, and occasionally pus. He has three or four large hemorrhoids and has an ulcer about 1 inch from the anus or posterior surface of the rectum, about the size of a dime. The rectum is badly inflamed and ulcerated. This man's condition has grown so badly that his bowels are now inflamed and very sensitive to the touch. He has lost all appetite; his tongue is red and contracted.

By reason of his disabilities he has become so helpless that he is compelled to take to his bed for days at a time, and spends most of his time in bed. He is utterly unable to support himself by reason of his disabled condition. He has no one upon whom he can depend for a living. He is compelled to wear a truss at all times.

This information is given after a careful examination of the papers now on file in the Pension Bureau, and is taken exclusively from the reports of the various examining boards that have examined the soldier. In each report since 1889 the board has given the soldier a higher rating than he was drawing, and in some cases the boards have rated the soldier as high as second grade. Some have given him a third-grade rate. They all consider him disabled from earning a support by reason of his disabilities.

The object of this bill is to pension him at the rate of \$30 per month because of these disabilities.

Your committee are of the opinion that the claimant is disabled to the extent of second-grade rate, and as the present disabilities are the result of disabilities incurred while in the service and in the line of duty, we think he is entitled to \$30 per month, and recommend that the bill be favorably passed for that amount.